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REPORT

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Information

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1. At 0800 hours GMT on 1 September 1955, a large naval vessel and three submarines were in the area southwest of Cheshmenskiy Point in Onega Bay. The vessels were sailing on various courses and were not in formation, but plainly were carrying on exercises. Two of the submarines were surfaced. The third was submerged and maneuvered close to the surface ship with only the periscope visible. [redacted]
[redacted] It was about 200 meters long. It had a raised forecastle with a gun mount and an antiaircraft gun aft of the main battery mount. There was a break in the deck immediately forward of the bridge; a very high conning bridge with a data computer, not spherical, on top of it; a tripod mast abaft the bridge; two identical funnels with a great distance between them; a tripod mainmast forward of the after funnel; three or four torpedo tubes between the forward funnel and the mainmast; a deckhouse with an antiaircraft gun on the afterdeck; a gun mount abaft the antiaircraft gun; four antiaircraft guns along the railing on each side of the afterdeck; and a stern rounded down toward the waterline. The antiaircraft guns resembled the American DP-30 mm.
2. At the sawmill area, some hut-like prefabricated houses were being erected. They had double walls insulated with straw. On the southern portion of the quay, soldiers were engaged in loading sections of similar houses on barges which were towed up the river.
3. There was no longer full freedom of movement for foreign seamen in Onega. It was forbidden to take the road up to the city itself or to go up by ferry. All movement in the sawmill area had to take place on the road which led up to the club and which went near the river. All the barges which came from Sawmill 32, were very carefully searched by the guards. Inspection of the ship was very thorough on departure. All places where a stowaway could hide were carefully searched.

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